

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF AMERISKA
DOMOVINA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ameriska Domovina, one of the oldest Slovenian papers in the world and Northeast Ohio's oldest ethnic newspaper, as it ceases publication this August after one-hundred and ten years in circulation.

Ameriska Domovina was first published in Cleveland, Ohio in 1898, making it the Ohio's oldest ethnic newspaper. James V. Debevec inherited the newspaper from his father, James E. Debevec, who assumed responsibility of the paper in the 1930's with the intention of preparing new immigrants from Slovenia for their citizenship tests. James V. changed the content of the newspaper with the changing needs of the community, using it as a forum to teach and preserve Slovenian culture and traditions to the growing community of Slovenian-Americans. The paper, like all ethnic newspapers, has been vital in connecting the Slovenian community with their roots and as well as with other Slovenian communities in North America. Debevec printed news from Slovenian communities in the United States and Canada in the newspaper.

Ameriska Domovina has over two-thousand subscribers; each newspaper is printed using Debevec's own printing press, at an office located on St. Claire Avenue in Downtown Cleveland. The last issue of Ameriska Domovina will be distributed to its subscribers on August 21, 2008, following the retirement of Debevec, his wife, and their colleague.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of Ameriska Domovina, Northeast Ohio's oldest ethnic newspaper, and in recognition of the contributions of the Slovenian-American community in the Greater Cleveland area.

IN HONOR OF NORMAN
LONGFELLOW SMITH

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Norman Longfellow Smith, a dedicated and outstanding public servant from the 10th Congressional District of Virginia. Mr. Smith passed away on May 26 at his home in Middleburg.

Mr. Smith, the former deputy chief of operations in the CIA's counterintelligence services, committed 27 tireless years to the Agency as an analyst, missile specialist, and counterintelligence officer. Mr. Smith also served in the United States Army and achieved the rank

of colonel in his tenure along with a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart.

I am inserting, for the record, the obituary which appeared in The Washington Post on June 7. Mr. Smith was an exemplary public servant and a fine example of devotion and allegiance to his country and family.

NORMAN LONGFELLOW SMITH, 83; CIA
OFFICIAL

(By Patricia Sullivan)

Norman Longfellow Smith, 83, a former deputy chief of operations in the CIA's counterintelligence service, died of congestive heart failure and complications of Guillain-Barre Syndrome on May 26 at his home in Middleburg.

Mr. Smith, who joined the CIA in 1951, analyzed Soviet armaments and, after the Soviets launched Sputnik, specialized in ballistic missiles and space vehicles. In 1960, he chaired an intelligence community task force to monitor missile activity outside the Soviet Union.

Dino Brugioni, an imagery analyst with the CIA's National Photographic Interpretation Center who worked with Mr. Smith, described him as a defensive-missile specialist in the agency's Office of Scientific Intelligence who focused on surface-to-air missiles.

Brugioni, who wrote "Eyeball to Eyeball: The Inside Story of the Cuban Missile Crisis" (1990), said others in the interpretation center spotted surface-to-air missile sites in spy satellite photographs taken over Cuba in fall 1962. The short, pipe-smoking Mr. Smith was called in, and he began writing daily reports, concluding that construction was rushing forward and that some sites would be operational in two weeks, Brugioni said.

A short time later, when a U.S. U-2 spy plane was shot down over Cuba and low-altitude spy flights came under fire, Mr. Smith did the analysis about how and why it happened, Brugioni said in an interview. Intercepted radio traffic was in Russian, so it was clear that the Soviets were involved. The information sparked what came to be known as the Cuban missile crisis.

Mr. Smith was reassigned in 1968 to the CIA's counterintelligence staff. He rose to the top ranks of the division, which handles clandestine operations overseas. He held that job until the CIA was reorganized in 1975 and 1976, in the wake of newspaper and Senate investigations over revelations that the agency had assassinated foreign leaders and conducted surveillance on thousands of American citizens active in the antiwar movement.

Mr. Smith then became executive director of a task force to modernize and reform management procedures in the Directorate of Operations, and he retired in 1978. He worked 10 more years as a consultant for several defense contractors.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., he was drafted into the Army during World War II and spent several years at Purdue University in Indiana until he was sent to Europe with an infantry division. He became an officer in the Army Reserve and retired in 1980 as a colonel. Among his military awards were a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart.

He graduated from Colgate University and in the 1950s completed a doctoral degree at the London School of Economics. He also at-

tended the National University of Mexico, Heidelberg University in Germany, New York University and Georgetown University.

He was past president of the International Order of the Knights of the Round Table in Arlington and treasurer of the Arts Club of Washington. He was a member of the Diplomatic and Consular Officers, Retired, the Central Intelligence Retirees' Association, the Association of Former Intelligence Officers, the Fairfax Hunt Club and the Evergreen Country Club.

He was a Republican Party precinct chairman in Fairfax County and a member of the Emmanuel and Trinity Episcopal churches in Middleburg and Upperville.

His marriage to Deana Browne Smith ended in divorce.

Survivors include his wife of 22 years, Carolyn L. Tillotson-Smith of Middleburg.

HONORING WORLD WAR II VET-
ERANS PRIVATE THURMAN
MCMILLEN, PRIVATE FIRST
CLASS J.B. BURKS, CORPORAL
LELAND WHITEHORN, AND PRI-
VATE FIRST CLASS JAMES
KNIGHTON

HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to welcome a group of World War II veterans from Mississippi's First District to Washington, DC. I am honored to welcome these members of the greatest generation to Washington to visit the National World War II Memorial. Built to honor the 16 million Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, Coast Guardsmen, and Merchant Mariners who served our Nation during World War II, the National World War II Memorial serves as a reminder of their sacrifice and service to millions of visitors.

The members of this special group are some of the few remaining survivors of the Battle of Iwo Jima. This battle was strategic to American success in the Pacific Theater and marked the first attack by U.S. troops on the Japanese home islands. Iwo Jima saw some of the fiercest fighting and lasted more than a month as American service members bravely fought against the heavily fortified positions of the Japanese Imperial Army.

After landing on the third day of pitched battle, Private Thurman McMillen fought courageously for thirty three days.

Private First Class J.B. Burks stayed on Iwo Jima for twenty nine days after his arrival on the first day of battle.

Corporal Leland Whitehorn arrived on the islands on the first day of the fight and was wounded on his third day.

Private First Class James Knighton also served honorably during the Battle of Iwo Jima.

On behalf of Mississippi's First District, I am honored to offer our deepest appreciation to these brave men. During the current time of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

war it is most appropriate to recognize both today's troops and their forefathers. Our community is proud to be home to veterans who have defended our freedom in the past and to our soldiers who continue to fight for freedom today. I know that my colleagues will join me in welcoming these courageous warriors to our Nation's capital and thanking them, these soldiers of the greatest generation, for their invaluable service to our country.

**THE DAILY 45: 2 LITTLE GIRLS
KILLED IN A SMALL OKLAHOMA
TOWN**

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, the Department of Justice tells us that, every day, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. I grieve, daily, in solidarity with those I serve in Chicago over the senseless loss of life from guns, especially among our children. There are thousands of other communities across our Nation that, likewise, see their children cut down by perpetrators wielding the merciless barrel of a gun.

Today, it's my sad responsibility to extend my condolences to the family and friends of 13-year-old Taylor Paschal-Placker and her 11-year-old best friend, Skyla Whitaker, who lost their lives on Sunday, June 8. Both were shot while walking not far from their homes in the small, rural town of Weleetka, Oklahoma. As law enforcement officials continue to investigate this crime, these children's families and their close knit community of 1,000 are grieving and frightened while a murderer remains at large.

Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45." When will we say "enough is enough, stop the killing!"

RECOGNIZING DR. ROBERT
DIXON—SCOTTSDALE HEALTH-
CARE'S "SALUTE TO MILITARY"
HONOREE

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Robert Dixon, Scottsdale Healthcare's "Salute to Military" Honoree for June 2008. Scottsdale Healthcare is recognizing Dr. Dixon and other physicians with a connection to the Armed Services for their dedication to saving lives and securing our freedom.

Since the program's inauguration in 2004, Scottsdale Healthcare has provided over 300 medical personnel with outstanding trauma skill training. The program is offered in partnership with Maricopa Integrated Health System and has focused on the Air National Guard, Luke Air Force Base, and Davis Monthan Air Force Base.

Dr. Robert Dixon is a deserving recipient of Scottsdale Healthcare's tribute. He is a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force, stationed at the 56th Medical Group of Luke Air Force Base in Arizona since 2004. Dr. Dixon will be deployed to Iraq in May of 2008, which will be his fourth deployment to the Middle East and Southwest Asia.

He was the first surgeon to participate in Scottsdale Healthcare's Military Training Program in preparation for deployment to the Gulf. The Military Training Program is designed to maintain trauma skills and integrates trauma surgery, neurosurgery, burn trauma, and other critical skills. He played a prominent role in the development and testing of the pilot project at Scottsdale Healthcare, in conjunction with Dr. Michael Foley and Dr. Ken Ransom.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Dr. Robert Dixon's tireless service and sacrifice to this country.

**TRIBUTE TO CHIEF DEPUTY
DENNIS POLLEY**

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the diligent and steadfast service by Chief Deputy Dennis Polley and congratulate him on his retirement from the Marshall County Police department. During Dennis's tenure as Chief Deputy he has consistently demonstrated commitment to his position, his co-workers and his community.

For the last 32 years, Chief Deputy Polley served Marshall County faithfully and honorably. Chief Deputy Polley's daily courage goes above and beyond what we are asked of as citizens of this country. His service in providing safety to his community earns him respect and honor and for this I offer him my utmost respect, congratulations and thanks.

I commend Officer Dennis Polley for his many years of loyal service in protecting Iowans. It is an immense honor to represent Officer Polley in the United States Congress, and I know that my colleagues join me in wishing him a long, happy, and healthy retirement.

**SAINT CATHERINE HOSPITAL 80TH
ANNIVERSARY**

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sincerity and appreciation that I stand today to recognize the 80th anniversary of Saint Catherine Hospital in East Chicago, Indiana. For the past 80 years, Saint Catherine Hospital has served the city of East Chicago and the citizens of northwest Indiana by offering quality care to those in need.

In the 1920s, recognizing the need for a healthcare facility in the heavily industrialized

city of East Chicago, Indiana, community and business leaders began investigating the possibility of building a hospital within city limits. With the guidance of the Manufacturers Association of East Chicago and the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ (Ancilla Domini Sisters), a committee was appointed, led by Colonel Walter J. Riley. Due to the tireless efforts of these community and business leaders to formulate plans and raise money, Saint Catherine Hospital opened its doors on May 17, 1928.

Over the years, with the continued support of the Riley family and the Inland Steel Ryerson Foundation, the hospital flourished, increasing not only the number of beds but also the depth of its services. The medical staff at this time became well-known for their innovation and medical advancements, eventually creating the first school of x-ray technology in 1936. In addition, Saint Catherine Hospital became a very important location in the fight against polio, and in 1963, was the venue for the first open-heart operation. Expansion of the hospital continued through the years with new wings and remodeling, a new patient tower in 1987, and the Family Birthing Center in 1997.

In 2001, Donald S. Powers, a true visionary and one of northwest Indiana's finest citizens, brought together Saint Catherine Hospital, Community Hospital in Munster, and the Saint Mary Medical Center in Hobart to create the Community Healthcare System. From this vision emerged a partnership that would allow these outstanding hospitals to work together instead of competing with each other, resulting in one of America's best integrated healthcare delivery systems.

Subsequently, a \$2.5 million MRI system was added at Saint Catherine Hospital and in 2002, a \$2.2 million renovation of the emergency room was completed. In 2005, the CyberKnife Center opened, which brought the Community Healthcare System its most impressive piece of technology to date. Recently, Saint Catherine Hospital was awarded the 2008 HealthGrades Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence, making it the third consecutive year that the hospital has received this award.

In honor of the 80th anniversary celebration, Saint Catherine Hospital will recognize the companies and individuals who have aided in the construction and enhancement of the hospital. These honorees are: Donald S. Powers, ArcelorMittal Steel, ASF Keystone, BP, NIPSCO, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ (Ancilla Domini Sisters), the Block family, and the Riley family.

Madam Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these honorees, as well as the staff and administration of Saint Catherine Hospital, past and present, who have spent the past 80 years providing quality healthcare services to the people of northwest Indiana. Through their efforts and their standards of excellence, many in the northwest Indiana community have had the opportunity to enhance their lives. It is the compassion and commitment of facilities like Saint Catherine Hospital that make northwest Indiana such a great community, and they are to be commended for their selflessness and dedication.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR.
DENNIS MIDDLETON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the memory of an exceptional leader, longtime Scoutmaster, and dedicated family man, Mr. Dennis Middleton.

Dennis owned and operated E. L. Middleton and Son Garage in Loxley, Alabama, for the past 40 years. Dennis, along with his wife, Jean, took in and raised several foster children. He also served as an assistant minister of the First Christian Church of Robertsdale for 30 years. As a member of the church, he worked with the Outreach Minister Program "Life Connection" which focused on helping ex-offenders. However, the title for which he was most proud was Scoutmaster of Troop 45 in Robertsdale.

For 33 years, Dennis served as a Scoutmaster of Troop 45. He was recently asked what Scouting meant to him, and his answer was "everything." Dennis never expected his life to revolve around Scouting. When asked by the previous Scoutmaster to take charge of Troop 45, he decided to serve until a replacement could be found. Three decades later, he positively influenced countless young lives and was once described as, "the backbone of Scouting" in his area.

Dennis was a selfless individual, always eager to help anyone in need. For example, a few years ago during a Cub Scout campout, Dennis spent an entire day working on a broken water well. The Cub Scouts later found out that it was his birthday, and instead of being home celebrating with friends and family, he was at the campground making sure the Cub Scouts had water. In recognition of his tireless efforts on behalf of the Scouts, a Scout lodge at the Silver Creek Campground was recently dedicated in his honor. Humbly, Dennis requested the new building not be named for him and instead follow the Scout tradition of honoring American Indian cultures. Today, the lodge is named Toknaawa Pahn, meaning "Silver Creek" in Muscogee, the native tribal group.

The great contributions made by Dennis as Scoutmaster did not go unnoticed. He was honored with several Scout awards, such as the Silver Beaver and the Order of the Arrow Vigil Honor. He also received the Who's Who Gulf Coast Award in 1989. Dennis was a member of the Order of the Arrow WOA Cholenia Lodge No. 322. He attended the Wood Badge SR 550 and was a member of the respectable "Bob White" patrol.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. Dennis Middleton will be deeply missed by his family—his wife of 43 years, Jean Middleton; his daughters, Sabrina Middleton and Beverly Middleton; his son, Dennis Wayne Middleton; his foster son, Allen Kittrell; his sister, Mary Sue Archer and her husband David; his brother, Charles David Middleton and his wife Lillie; his 13 grandchildren—as well as the countless friends and fellow Scouts he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TEXOMA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND THE SERVICE OF VOLUNTEERS IN THE TEXOMA FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the legacy of leadership within the Texoma Council of Governments, as well as the service of dedicated volunteers in the Texoma Foster Grandparent Program.

The Texoma Council of Governments (TCOG) was formed by the Legislature in 1968, and was designated under the authority of Chapter 391, Local Texas State Government Code, along with 23 other State Planning Regions, to review and comment on Federal and State financial assistance requests. It is a voluntary organization comprised of city and county governments, colleges, school districts, and chambers of commerce, determined to build strength through regional cooperation. TCOG is responsible for evaluating any project that would have an impact on the three-county area of Cooke, Fannin and Grayson Counties, and works to continually improve the economic, social, and educational opportunities for the citizens in these regions.

Due to the large number of senior community servants in the area, TCOG founded the Texoma Foster Grandparent Program. This program is part of a national organization focused on utilizing area seniors, ages 60 or older, to mentor and tutor "at risk" youths. These volunteers serve approximately 40,000 hours per year in public settings such as Texoma schools, day care, and community centers. On April 24th, the Program's Advisory Council recognized its dedicated senior volunteers with a 50s themed recognition, fittingly entitled, "Volunteers Rock," at the Sherman First United Methodist Church. Several area businesses donated food, door prizes, and funds to help make the event a success, as all volunteers received awards for hours served during the year. The Texoma Foster Grandparent Program Advisory Council and the program's volunteers are wonderful role models for the community at large, and I wholeheartedly applaud them for utilizing their experience, talents, and energy to serve as a positive influence for special needs children and "at risk" youths.

But Texoma's celebration doesn't end there because on June 19, 2008, TCOG will celebrate its 40th Anniversary at Austin College with an event entitled "Legacy of Leadership." Funds generated by business partners and vendors for this event will be returned to Texoma's private sector and donated to the Texoma Senior Citizens Foundation. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate TCOG's many accomplishments and legacy of service during the past 40 years. I want to commend current and past members who have contributed their time, talent and resources to make TCOG one of the most effective Councils of Government in the State.

I am confident that the Texoma Council of Governments will continue to meet the challenges of the future and continue to provide outstanding services for those it represents,

and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating TCOG on its 40th Anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO OLD GLORY

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the journey of remembrance our Nation's flag has made over the past 6 months, which culminated on Memorial Day when it flew over the Capitol and specifically the National Moment of Remembrance at 3 p.m. that day.

The flag's journey started December 7, 2007, in Hawaii to mark the 66th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The flag made a stop on Christmas Eve in Washington's Eighth District, at Tahoma National Cemetery in Kent, Washington. During its journey, Old Glory traveled to 28 different locations in 20 States, being flown over a significant memorial site at every stop. The journey of our Nation's flag is a wonderful way for this body and for citizens throughout this country to remember the sacrifices of millions of men and women in service to our great Nation.

Ordinary men and women have done extraordinary things time and again to preserve the values and beliefs that make the United States a wonderful country. Their brave sacrifices will never be forgotten or overlooked. As we speak, men and women are fighting for freedom and justice and helping to preserve peace in foreign lands throughout the world. Their remarkable sacrifices are being made not for personal gain or fame, but because of deep-seeded patriotism. That American spirit is alive and well and will preserve this Nation for years to come.

On behalf of my constituents in the Eighth District of Washington, I want to take this moment to honor the service of our many soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen. Their sacrifices allow Old Glory to fly. On Memorial Day, citizens throughout this country united to reflect on the valor and sacrifice we honor, and it is my hope that we carry that spirit every day of the year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to offer a personal explanation. I was unavoidably detained last Thursday, June 5, during the rollcall votes for the following bills: H.R. 5540, Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization Act; H.R. 3058, Public Land Communities Transition Act of 2007.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

"No" on rollcall vote 384, on the Bishop of Utah amendment to H.R. 5540, the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization Act;

"No" on rollcall vote 385, on Motion To Re-commit With Instructions, H.R. 5540, the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization Act;

"Yes" on rollcall vote 386, on Passage of H.R. 5540, the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization Act;

"Yes" on rollcall vote 387, on Motion To Suspend the Rules and Pass, as amended, the Public Land Communities Transition Act of 2007, H.R. 3058.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CALN
TOWNSHIP CHIEF OF POLICE
JOHN BENNETT

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated public servant from Chester County, Pennsylvania, who is leaving after a nearly six-year career with the Caln Township Police Department to accept the position of Chief of Police with Paradise Valley, Arizona.

Chief of Police John Bennett joined the Caln Township Police Department as Chief of Police in June 30, 2002, replacing the retiring Chief James Franciscus. Prior to his time as Chief of Police in Caln Township, Chief Bennett served as Deputy Chief of Police of Marple Township in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and has served in law enforcement for over 36 years in Delaware and Chester Counties.

As Chief of Police, John oversaw a department of 20 officers, with a lieutenant, four sergeants, and two investigators. John's leadership has helped make the Caln Township Police Department a first class law enforcement agency. During his six-year tenure as Chief of Police, Chief Bennett was instrumental in establishing an investigative division, creating a bicycle patrol unit and the Youth Aid Panel. Also during this time, John was responsible for sending two officers to the FBI National Academy.

In addition to his duties as Chief of Police, Chief Bennett also served on several executive boards and committees, notably on the Executive Board of the Chester County Chiefs of Police, the Civil Rights Committee for the International Chiefs of Police, the Legislative Committee for the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police, and as Committee Chair of the Chester County Major Incident Response Team. Chief Bennett's service and accomplishments will be celebrated on Thursday, June 12, 2008 at the Caln Township Municipal Building.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in praising the outstanding service of Chief of Police John Bennett, and all those who take an oath to serve and protect their communities.

HONORING DEBORAH A. YOW

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the University of Maryland's Deborah A. Yow on her selection as the next President of the Division 1A Athletic Directors'

Association. Ms. Yow is the first woman to fill this national leadership role, responsible for coordinating the efforts of collegiate athletic directors at 1,600 colleges and universities across the United States and Canada.

The Association's Executive Director, Dutch Baughman, praised Ms. Yow as "an extremely capable and effective leader." He added that "She has not only influenced the lives of over 450 athletics administrators over the past seven years, but she has been evaluated by those [fellow administrators] as the best."

After 14 years of success at the University of Maryland, her national role is well-earned. Overseeing 27 sports and more than 700 student-athletes, Debbie Yow has built a reputation as one of America's most accomplished athletic leaders. Under her leadership, Maryland teams have won 17 national championships, while maintaining balanced budgets and a high graduation rate of 85 percent. In fact, last year's graduation rate was the highest in the history of Maryland athletics and the best of any public institution in the Atlantic Coast Conference. Ms. Yow has excelled as an educator, an administrator, and a fundraiser, and has repeatedly been ranked among the 20 most influential people in collegiate athletics. At the same time, she has served in public life as an advocate for women's sports and the protection of Title IX.

Her new position is the capstone on a career dedicated to the highest purposes of college athletics: Debbie Yow's work shows that "student-athlete" is far from an empty expression. I thank her for all that she has done for our State, its flagship university, and its students. And I wish her the best of luck, both in her continuing duties as University of Maryland Athletic Director and as a voice for athletic directors throughout North America.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND DR. OTIS
MOSS JR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Reverend Dr. Otis Moss Jr. A profoundly respected and influential member of the Greater Cleveland community and a leader of greater Cleveland's civic culture, Dr. Otis Moss Jr. is this year's recipient of Cleveland's NAACP's Freedom Award.

The Freedom Award is the highest form of recognition awarded by Cleveland's NAACP and is awarded to members of the community who have dedicated their lives to fostering social change and building a society based on the ideals of equality and justice. Dr. Otis Moss Jr., a resident of the Cleveland area for over thirty years, carries with him a rich history of public service and advocacy, especially in the African-American community. Born in rural Georgia and a graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, he worked along side Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., leading sit-ins and advocating for desegregation during the civil rights era.

He became a pastor in 1954, serving in various Baptist Churches throughout Georgia until 1961, when he moved to Mount Zion Baptist Church in Cincinnati. In this capacity, he continued fighting for equality locally by challenging discrimination in the workplace. Dr.

Otis Moss Jr. left his position at Mount Zion Baptist Church to march once again alongside Martin Luther King Jr. in Alabama and Washington and to serve as Co-Pastor with Martin Luther King Sr. at Alabama's Ebenezer Baptist Church. He later returned to Ohio in 1974, to lead one of Cleveland's largest and most prominent churches, Olivet Institutional Baptist Church. He has served as Senior Pastor of Olivet Institutional Baptist Church for over thirty years, working closely with the greater Cleveland community in continuing the fight for civil rights and access to quality medical care. In the late 1990's, he worked with University Hospitals to create the Otis Moss Jr. Medical Center in the Fairfax neighborhood of Cleveland, bringing desperately needed resources and access to quality health care to its residents.

Dr. Otis Moss Jr.'s ability to mobilize the community and to advocate for the social welfare of others has been manifested in the various leadership roles he has played. His leadership has served as an undeniable source of inspiration to many who want social justice.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of Reverend Dr. Otis Moss Jr., who has dedicated his life to serving his Church and the Greater Cleveland community. Let his advocacy on behalf of the welfare of others serve as inspiration for all those in pursuit of social justice.

TRIBUTE TO BILL KIBBY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Bill Kibby and to congratulate him on being inducted into the Iowa Athletic Directors Hall of Fame.

Bill Kibby has been a teacher and coach for 44 years, 40 of which he has been an athletic director. His educational career began as a teacher at Bayard Consolidated School. At Bayard he was involved in coaching football, basketball, cross country, and track. He then began his tenure at Johnston High School where, in 1967, he became the school's athletic director. After his service in Johnston, Mr. Kibby moved to Fort Dodge where he was St. Edmond Catholic High School's football coach and athletic director for 21 years. For 16 of those years he also helped coach track, but resigned when he accepted the position of principal at Sacred Heart Junior High School. During his time at St. Edmond and Sacred Heart he also made time to coach basketball and softball.

In 1988, Mr. Kibby took his final position in his stellar educational career at Jefferson-Scranton. Upon his retirement in 2006, Mr. Kibby continued to coach football at Jefferson-Scranton.

In his long and illustrious career Mr. Kibby can boast of many exemplary achievements. During his time as a coach, his football teams combined have claimed over 200 victories, including more than 100 wins at two different schools, and 11 state football play-off contests.

Mr. Kibby has also been bestowed with many noteworthy individual awards. In 2006 he was named IFCA Coach of the Year and

was a finalist in 2004 for Iowa High School Athletic Association Athletic Director of the Year. In 2001 Mr. Kibby received the IHSAA Bernie Saggau Award of Merit.

I would like to express my appreciation to Mr. Kibby for his steadfast dedication to education and congratulate him on the honor of being inducted into the Iowa Athletic Directors Hall of Fame.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
JAMES P. HAYES, JR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. James P. Hayes, Jr.

Jim was born in Brewton, Alabama, and graduated from T.R. Miller High School. He then received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in Industrial Engineering from the University of Alabama. While at the university, he was a member of the Tau Beta Pi honor fraternity and the Delta Kappa Epsilon social fraternity.

Jim's many years of public service began when he joined former Alabama Governor Don Siegelman's administration in 1999 and served as revenue commissioner. He later served as director of the Alabama Development Office, executive secretary, land commissioner, and senior advisor to Governor Siegelman. Jim also served as director of planning and acquisitions for the Louisiana Land and Exploration Company, and he was director of First Commercial Bank in Birmingham and BancTrust Financial in Mobile.

Not only was he a dedicated public servant, but Jim was also an active civic leader. He was a past president of the Supporters Board of the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center. He was a supporter of the Lakeshore Foundation, the Crippled Children's Foundation, the Greater Birmingham Humane Society, and numerous other charitable foundations.

In 2002, Jim became president of the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama and restructured the group. Jim led the EDPA out of debt, while working tirelessly to improve the lives of all Alabama citizens.

The work of Jim Hayes did not go unnoticed. In 1994, the University of Alabama named him its Alumnus of the Year. And, he was recently honored when the University of Alabama's James P. Hayes Moral Forum was endowed in his name. In 2004, the University of Alabama bestowed Jim an honorary doctorate and named him a Distinguished Engineering Fellow. In recognition of all his wonderful work, Jim received the Outstanding Civic Leader Award on National Philanthropy Day in 2007.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated businessman, public servant, husband, and friend to all. Jim Hayes will be deeply missed by his wife, Ann Beauchamp Hayes; his sisters, Margaret Hayes Brunstad and Susan Hayes Curry; his five nieces, and his nephew—as well as the many countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

MERIDA INITIATIVE TO COMBAT
ILLICIT NARCOTICS AND REDUCE
ORGANIZED CRIME AUTHORIZA-
TION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, as Chair of the Workforce Protections Subcommittee, I join U.S. and international labor organizations in their strong concern about this bill.

As introduced, the bill goes a long way to improve upon the President's request. The human rights protections have been strengthened, but must be further improved.

We must ensure that before any agreement is authorized and funded, the most basic human and labor rights have been guaranteed.

I have strong concerns about abuses committed by Mexican and some of the Central American law enforcement agencies.

Labor activists and community leaders have been harassed, arrested, and physically assaulted. Many live in fear for themselves and for their families.

I am concerned that these same law enforcement officials will be receiving military-style training, transportation, and weapons. Do we want to be putting military helicopters and weaponry in their hands?

We must proceed with extreme caution on this proposal. I will have to oppose the legislation in its current form. I hope that we will be able to address the concerns of human and labor rights leaders here at home and in the Merida nations when the bill is in conference with the Senate version.

CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION
AND COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of passing meaningful climate change legislation that includes programs to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. Climate change is one of the most urgent issues of our time and will affect the whole world, but the brunt of the climate burden will undoubtedly be taken by the poorest populations.

Low-lying coastal areas and urban inner cities are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. The construction of interstate highways has concentrated greenhouse gases in urban communities and increased the prevalence of asthma in those areas. 70 percent of African-American people live near environmentally unfriendly industries like coal fired plants. These plants emit greenhouse gases and other pollutants that adversely affect the air quality in the communities around them.

The issue of climate change is not only about African-Americans, but a much broader Black community. The Black Diaspora and Africans are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of environmental inaction. It is estimated that 75–250 million Africans can be affected by the stresses that climate change

has on water supply and a rapidly changing ecosystem.

The ingenuity of the people of the United States will allow our country to become a leader in curbing global warming by paving the way with well-planned legislation and creating jobs that will boost the economy. Prompt, decisive action is critical, since global warming pollutants can persist in the atmosphere for more than a century.

The most important thing to remember is that the most expensive policy is that of doing nothing. We cannot afford not to take action. The impact that climate change has on our ecosystems, health, and food and energy costs is irreversible. By taking aggressive action on this urgent issue, we are showing our constituents and the world that climate change is highly prioritized by the United States and furthermore, it determines the decisiveness and speed with which we as a country will confront this issue in the future.

IN HONOR OF SAMEER MISHRA,
SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING
BEE CHAMPION

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, on May 30, 2008, Sameer Mishra, an eighth grader at West Lafayette Junior/Senior High School in West Lafayette, Indiana, made his family, school, city and State proud when he won the 2008 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. Sameer outlasted 287 other competitors to become this year's champion.

In order to become the National Spelling Bee Champion, Sameer had to spell many complex words. The final word that stood between him and his victory was "guerdon"—meaning a reward. After 3 years of hard work, he finally received his ultimate "guerdon".

Before Sameer's spelling bee days, he watched his big sister, Shruti, compete in the National Spelling Bee, and he told his family that one day he would win the Scripps National Spelling Bee. True to his promise, he won the title on the very last opportunity that he was eligible.

This was Sameer's fourth and last year in the competition. In 2005 he tied for 98th place. He made a huge jump in 2006 when he received 14th place, and last year he placed a well respected 16th.

When he is not out-spelling middle school students from across the Nation, Sameer loves to read and participates in his school's book club. He enjoys playing computer and video games, as well as board games. Sameer has played the violin for 4 years in his school orchestra. He also likes to ride his bike and hang out with his friends. His favorite subjects are science and math.

Sameer is a competitive student. He participates in contests such as Spell Bowl, Academic Super Bowl and Indiana State School Music Association. With his spelling bee days behind him, Sameer looks forward to high school and lofty goals that include a career as a neurosurgeon.

Sameer Mishra is a remarkable young man. His competitive spirit and drive will take him far in life. His ability to set goals and work

hard to achieve them makes him a shining example that other children can aspire to.

U.S. ARMY RESERVE RETURNS TO LIFE-SAVING AIR AMBULANCE MISSION

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, with the delivery of the first two HH-60 Blackhawk helicopters this past Saturday to F Company, 1st Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment, at the St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport in Florida, the U.S. Army Reserve is preparing to resume its life-saving air evacuation mission.

Lieutenant General Jack C. Stultz, the Chief of the Army Reserve, and I joined in ceremonies to accept the delivery of the first of the 12 helicopters that will be assigned to this unit, which officially stands up its operations this September. The Army Reserve stopped flying air evacuation missions in 1993, but General Stultz, realizing the tremendous demand for these operations throughout the world, made it a priority to reestablish this capability.

Given the advancements of armored vehicles, body armor, and medical care administered in the field, we are able to save the lives of servicemembers who in prior conflicts would have died. With the state-of-the-art helicopters like those we received Saturday, we are saving lives and getting those injured men and women to field hospitals quicker than ever so they can receive the care they need and they so richly deserve.

The HH-60 air ambulance helicopters are emergency rooms in the air. They are equipped with the finest possible medical systems to provide critical care for up to six patients. These systems include an electronic patient litter system, on-board oxygen generation system, medical suction system, patient monitors and high intensity night vision goggle compatible lighting.

The aircraft are also equipped with the most advanced avionics and special mission systems to assist the crew in locating and rescuing injured personnel on the battlefield. These include forward looking infrared (FLIR) systems and an external rescue hoist to quickly raise and lower patients and rescue personnel. In addition, the new HH-60s have additional payload and range to allow them to carry more patients and fly longer distances without refueling.

The men and women who fly these missions as pilots, flight engineers, and medics are the best our Nation has to offer. We owe them the finest equipment to perform their mission safely and securely, but the machinery and technology means nothing if we did not have the people willing to fly into harm's way to save a fellow American.

The MEDEVAC crews are defenseless in flying their machines. They have no defensive systems on board and they often fly unaccompanied and must land under hostile fire to pick up their patients. As I said Saturday, it takes a special person to perform this mission and to perform it so well.

They fly with the same spirit as one of the legendary MEDEVAC pilots, Major Charles

"Combat" Kelly, who died while flying a mission in Vietnam in 1964. He coined what is now the motto for all MEDEVAC crews: "No compromise. No rationalization. No hesitation. Fly the mission. Now!"

Madam Speaker, let us take time today to honor the MEDEVAC crews that have brought home so many of our heroes to their families and friends. It is my distinct honor to have the privilege to represent the newly formed F Company in Pinellas County, Florida, and I look forward to being with the unit when it officially stands up later this year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I was unable to make the following votes yesterday because of a developing crisis in Iowa's 1st Congressional District. Massive flooding is leading to evacuations and it is only expected to get worse. Although I realize how important it is to cast votes in Washington, the well-being of my constituents comes first, and I need to be in the District to assist in any way I can.

On Rollcall 394, H. Res. 1063, I was not present. If I had been there, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall 395, H. Con. Res. 318, I was not present. If I had been there, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall 396, H. Con. Res. 336, I was not present. If I had been there, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Goodwill Industries of San Antonio, Texas, in its mission of helping change lives through their participation in the AbilityOne Program. In the city of San Antonio, Goodwill has a strong presence, providing over \$15,000,000 of services in document management, administration, and custodial maintenance through the AbilityOne Program. The AbilityOne Program provides employment opportunities to those with disabilities.

The AbilityOne Program got its beginning in 1938 in legislation known as the Wagner-O'Day Act, passed by President Roosevelt, which provided employment opportunities for the blind. In 1971, the program was redesignated as the Javits-Wagner-O'Day, JWOD, Program due to the work of Senator Jacob Javits in expanding the program to include people with disabilities and allowing the program to provide services to the Federal Government. Goodwill Industries of San Antonio was the first agency in the Nation to take on a contract provided by the JWOD Program shortly after its expansion in 1971, and continues to do so through the AbilityOne Program today.

Currently, Goodwill employs over 300 people in 40 diverse commercial, Federal and State contracts. Goodwill is the fourth largest contract services provider in the Nation, amongst 170 other Goodwill locations. Its history of success and development of working relationships has earned Goodwill a 90 percent satisfaction rating for multiple years with their customers. I am proud that the employment of people with disabilities has played a large role in the operation of Goodwill Industries in San Antonio, Texas.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the commitment of Goodwill Industries of San Antonio to ensuring the employment of those with disabilities through the AbilityOne Program.

NEW ERA OF REFORM IN MALAYSIA

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I would like to bring my colleagues' attention to significant political developments in Southeast Asia. Malaysia, which recently held major elections, is embarking on a new set of democratic reforms to deal with some of the serious problems that the country faces. I am pleased to see that Malaysia is moving toward reforms that would support the rule of law and a more open society.

Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi has announced a series of initiatives that would help demonstrate Malaysia's commitment to government reform and to moderate and progressive principles of democracy. The actions respond to the call for reform issued by voters in the March 8 elections.

The Malaysian government has proposed a series of judicial reforms to strengthen the independence of judges and improve trust and respect for the Malaysian judicial system, and steps to fight corruption. The government plans to take steps that would provide greater press freedoms as well.

Malaysia is a moderate country of 25 million people in Southeast Asia with a dominant Muslim population. The country is of significant importance to the United States and our interests in the region. Democratic development in Malaysia is important not only to the political stability and economic growth of Southeast Asia but the fight against extremism.

I would like to submit for the RECORD and for the benefit of my colleagues an editorial by the Wall Street Journal Asia that comments on these reforms.

In closing, I encourage my colleagues to take notice of recent developments in Malaysia and to support the government as it works to implement democratic reforms that could benefit Malaysia and help support U.S. interests.

[From The Wall Street Journal, Apr. 24, 2008]

REFORMING MALAYSIA

Malaysia's economy has long been open to competition, but its political system has not. Last month's opposition-party electoral victories changed all that. Now, Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi has started to compete for voters' hearts, based on what the people want.

Mr. Abdullah's announcements over the past two weeks are nothing short of remarkable. Last Thursday, he acknowledged "perceived corruption" in the judiciary and announced an independent committee to vet prospective judges. On Monday, he promised to beef up the nation's Anti-Corruption Agency, implement laws to protect whistleblowers, and make changes to government procurement practices—long a source of patronage for his party, the United Malays National Organization, and the coalition it leads, the National Front.

None of these ideas are new. In fact, Mr. Abdullah himself promised better, cleaner governance when he took office in 2004. Malaysia's voters gave him four years to implement his promises. Last month, voters delivered their verdict: They handed opposition parties control of five out of 13 states, up from one—their biggest parliamentary gains since the country's founding.

With that reprimand, Mr. Abdullah now seems to realize that democracy in Malaysia matters. And he's ripped reform ideas straight from the opposition parties' playbooks. Anwar Ibrahim's National Justice Party, for instance, has long advocated judicial reform and the protection of whistleblowers. The new chief minister of Penang, a member of the Democratic Action Party, called for an open tender system for government procurement last month.

A wise leader will always appropriate good ideas, especially ones recently endorsed at the ballot box. Doing so is also a savvy political move for Mr. Abdullah. His standing as head of UMNO was put in question after his party's electoral losses last month. It still is—on Sunday, a former finance minister, Razaleigh Hamzah, said he'd contest for the party leadership.

If the Prime Minister can reposition himself as a reformer who enjoys public support, it will be harder for his internal challengers to unseat him, come the party congress in December. Showing that UMNO can reform is also a chance for Mr. Abdullah to slow the opposition's political momentum at a time when it is still enjoying the aftermath of last month's election victories.

The Prime Minister may also be thinking about his legacy. The first to hold that office after over two decades of rule under Mahathir Mohamad, Mr. Abdullah was seen as a transitional figure who would bring greater freedoms to his country. At first, he did, loosening controls on the press and cracking down on a few corrupt officials. But largely as last month's vote showed—he has so far failed.

Malaysia needs the reforms now on offer, and fast. Corruption undermines the country's economic competitiveness and its attractiveness as a place to do business. That depresses investment, and employment opportunities for Malaysians. Without a strong judiciary or a free press, the only way citizens feel they can show their discontent is to protest on the streets. Giving Malaysians a justice system they trust would help alleviate some, if not all, of those grievances.

None of these reforms can be implemented overnight, and most will be strongly opposed by UMNO's political machine, which has benefited for years from its opaque patronage system. But the threat of being unseated from office should be a good motivation for the party to take Mr. Abdullah's ideas seriously. Its about time.

IN HONOR OF THE ROCK AND ROLL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, located in the heart of historic downtown Cleveland, Ohio, and in recognition of the site's significant contributions to preserving American culture.

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum opened its doors in 1995 and attracts visitors from all over the country and the world. The Museum provides educational programs and opportunities for visitors to fully experience the history and impact that music has had on our culture. Artists and musicians from all over the world perform at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum and teach their audiences about the social significance of making music.

With carefully preserved artifacts from many of our country's favorite artists and the history behind some of the most beloved songs, the Hall of Fame and Museum showcases the significant impact that music has had in so many of our nation's social, cultural and political historical events. Throughout history, musicians have used their music as a vehicle to give voice to the voiceless, to challenge many social, cultural and political norms, and to celebrate that most human of emotions, love. This year, on June 13, 2008, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, along with the Joint Veterans Commission of Cuyahoga County, is commemorating Flag Day, the 233rd Birthday of the U.S. Army, and hosting a naturalization ceremony. I join the Hall of Fame and Museum and the JVCOC of Cleveland in their celebration of these important events.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Museum and in recognition of its unique and significant contributions to preserving American Culture and of its outstanding educational outreach programs.

TRIBUTE TO BONNIE BAKER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Bonnie Baker of Clarion, Iowa on her 26-year postal career and congratulate her on the occasion of her retirement. Mrs. Baker has been a shining example of dedicated public service throughout her career.

Mrs. Baker began in 1982 by working as a window clerk in Dows, Iowa. The following year she moved to the Clarion Post Office, again working the front window. During her tenure in Clarion, Mrs. Baker worked periodically at the EDS plant when her services were needed. In October of 1993 she accepted a full-time position working for EDS.

Mrs. Baker was responsible for a variety of duties at her most recent position, including

resolving different mailing problems that may arise, managing the transportation system, and instructing new employees on their various assignments.

I commend Bonnie Baker for her service to the State of Iowa throughout her many years in her postal career. It is an immense honor to represent Mrs. Baker in the United States Congress, and I know that my colleagues join me in wishing her a long, happy and healthy retirement.

HONORING THE CHEERLEADERS OF BOOKER T. WASHINGTON SENIOR HIGH

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to offer my warmest congratulations to a special group of cheerleaders in my Congressional District. The cheerleading team of Booker T. Washington Senior High recently took first place in their division at the Ameri-Cheer International Competition in Orlando, Florida. This is a wonderful accomplishment and I know that I join with our whole community in honoring their success.

With all their hard work, skill, and commitment to excellence, these young adults managed to bring home to their school a very notable title. These athletes truly deserve to be recognized as models for perseverance. All who know them can readily appreciate the can-do feeling that emanates from the group and their unyielding desire to succeed. They have shown us what it means to be the best.

I also recognize that it was with the support of their parents, teachers, and friends that these cheerleaders were able to win such a demanding competition. Those closest to this team were just as vital in its success as components in the motivation that allowed them to go so far. The devotion that family and friends offer is incredibly important and I am delighted with their involvement in this endeavor.

At this time I would like to submit into the RECORD the names of the cheerleading team from Booker T. Washington Senior High: Luria Davis, Head Coach; Sharon Parker, Assistant Coach; Frankeetha Roberts, Assistant Coach; Bridgette Godfrey, Senior; Samkia Kirkland, Senior; Tamkia Kirkland, Senior; Tania Hall, Senior; Prensata Adams, Senior; Constance Caffey, Senior; Rudellee Lewin, Senior; Tiffany Cruz-Brown, Junior; Sheltonise Clements, Sophomore; Laquanna Farquharson, Freshman; Tatianna Johnson, Freshman; Shamira Abbott, Freshman;

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these wonderful students and teachers for their success at this year's Ameri-Cheer International Competition.

IN RECOGNITION OF DENNIS MANGERS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to Dennis Mangers as he retires after

nearly 27 successful years with the California Cable & Telecommunications Association. As Dennis enters the next phase in his life and his family and friends gather to celebrate his illustrious career, I ask that all my colleagues join me in honoring his many remarkable accomplishments.

For the last 27 years, Dennis has been a tireless pioneer for the cable industry. As a chief lobbyist and then the head of the California Cable & Telecommunications Association, Dennis has garnered many accolades for his efforts. In 1994, he was given the Brad Wojcowski Award, an honor reserved to recognize a cable and telecommunications industry employee whose efforts have made a significant impact in the fight against HIV and AIDS in their local community. In 1998 he received the Vanguard Award, which is the cable industry's highest decoration for outstanding service at the State and regional level. And in 2004, Dennis was inducted into the Cable Center's Cable Pioneer Exhibit, which applauds groundbreaking leaders in the cable industry.

In addition to his invaluable work in the private sector for the cable industry, Dennis has had an impressive career in the public sector. His remarkable journey began as a teacher in the Long Beach Unified School District in 1964. As an educator, Dennis worked diligently to ensure that every child received equal access to quality education. In 1968, he became one of California's youngest school principals, serving first at the Earlimart Elementary School in Tulare and later at the Fountain Valley Elementary School in Orange County.

Dennis's devotion to improving our educational system continued with him as a California State Assemblyman. Elected in 1976, he quickly became the chair of the Subcommittee on Educational Reform. This allowed him to lead the State Legislative Task Force for the Improvement of Pre- and In-Service Training for School Administrators. This program helped recruit teachers and school administrators for California's educational system. Additionally, during his time in the Assembly, Dennis authored the Gifted and Talented Education Act (GATE). The GATE program is now a staple of California's educational system and allows for unique educational opportunities for students who have been identified as high achieving.

From his love for singing, to his enthusiasm for education, to his years giving back to the public as an elected official, Dennis has experienced many great things in his lifetime while also being active with many nonprofits. Throughout his career Dennis has championed tolerance and appreciation of diversity in the Sacramento region and across California. Dennis was a founding member and currently serves as the chairman of the board of directors for the Capitol Unity Council. The council was formed after the murder of a gay couple and the torching of three of Sacramento's synagogues in 1999. The council works to promote tolerance in the community, and Dennis has been leading the effort to build a center for diversity in downtown Sacramento. Thanks to his vision, this project is moving forward and upon completion will serve as an interactive learning experience where youth and visitors will engage in programs and activities that embrace inclusion, honor California's diversity, and motivate people to play an active role in building unity in their communities.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the numerous contributions made by Dennis during his lifetime of service. During his career he has worked tirelessly to further causes he believes in and has touched many people's lives both directly and indirectly. On behalf of the people of Sacramento and the Fifth Congressional District of California, I ask all my colleagues to join me in thanking my friend, Dennis Mangers, for his public service as we wish him success in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ST. MARY'S COOPERATIVE CREDIT ASSOCIATION

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H. Con. Res. 1145, which recognizes the 100-year anniversary of the establishment of St. Mary's Cooperative Credit Association. Created to service the financial needs of textile workers, St. Mary's Cooperative Credit Association, or the People's Bank, as it was appropriately renamed, was the Nation's first credit union.

Since the creation of St. Mary's Cooperative Credit Association, credit unions have grown to become a major part of the American financial services system. Today there are over 8,500 credit unions in the United States, serving over 90 million members.

During my years of service on the House Committee on Financial Services, I have had the opportunity to get to know many credit union employees. I have always been impressed with their commitment to serving their credit union members and their communities. In many ways, credit unions exemplify the best of the free market system. Since credit unions are formed specifically to serve their members, credit unions put the interests of their depositors first.

I hope that Congress will follow-up today's legislation by soon considering H.R. 5519, the Credit Union Regulatory Relief Act of 2008, which repeals Federal regulations that hinder credit unions from improving their services.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H. Con. Res. 1145, and I encourage all my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution and saluting all credit unions for their vital role in strengthening America's financial services industry.

A TRIBUTE TO PAUL E. GALLIS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Dr. Paul E. Gallis, specialist in European Affairs with the Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Trade Division of the Congressional Research Service. Dr. Gallis is retiring on July 3, 2008, after serving the Nation for approximately 28 years in various

positions at CRS, in the Senate, and in the State Department. In particular, Dr. Gallis served the Congress for 24 years as an expert in and objective observer of European security affairs. He has been the institutional memory of Congress on vital transatlantic political and security issues spanning multiple Congresses, several U.S. administrations, and key events in foreign policy. He has been an especially valued resource to Members and committees in Congress on all matters relating to the NATO alliance and relations with our European allies.

Dr. Gallis started working at CRS in June 1984 as an analyst in West European affairs. He came to CRS after working for 3 years in the office of Senator JOSEPH BIDEN as a policy advisor and speech writer. Before that, he served as a special assistant to Ambassador Rozanne Ridgway at the Department of State. Dr. Gallis received an M.A. and Ph.D. in European history at Brown University, and a B.A. in history and French from Davidson College. He studied at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes in Paris, France.

Dr. Gallis quickly emerged as a leading CRS expert on European security affairs. His early work focused on vital and often controversial cold war-era security issues such as the Strategic Defense Initiative, SDI, and allied responses; the conventional arms balance in Europe; and policy issues surrounding the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Force, INF, Treaty. With the end of the cold war, Dr. Gallis's work incorporated significant changes in the transatlantic relationship, turning to burdensharing issues surrounding the first Persian Gulf war, as well as international diplomacy leading to Germany's unification.

Throughout his career at CRS, Dr. Gallis served as an authority on NATO political affairs and the allied relationship. He produced numerous timely reports on NATO's missions and institutional processes, including alliance partnership programs and enlargement. He led or coordinated important studies on NATO's emerging operational challenges in the Balkans and in Afghanistan. Over the telephone and in person, Dr. Gallis frequently shared his expertise on these difficult issues with tact and judgment. His work informed thousands of Members and staff in congressional offices over the years as they grappled with the complex foreign policy and security issues of the day in hearings, legislative initiatives, and ongoing consultations with U.S. and foreign officials. In all of his work, Dr. Gallis upheld an unwavering commitment to the core CRS mission of supporting an informed national legislature with nonpartisan research and analysis.

In addition to the above, Dr. Gallis spent several years at CRS handling managerial duties as head of the Europe, Middle East, and Africa section of the Foreign Affairs Division. In this capacity he supervised the work of many CRS analysts and instilled in them his high standard of work and professionalism. He represented the Library of Congress at the National War College in 1991–1992.

I got to know Dr. Gallis personally in the context of his many years of intensive work with Congressional delegations to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. For the past several years, Dr. Gallis has been asked to serve as lead policy staff for delegations to the regular meetings of the NPA. In this capacity he has taken on yeoman's work in coordinating preparatory research analysis for delegation

members, directing staff support for the NPA working sessions, and providing essential on-site expertise to Members. Paul has been an invaluable resource to me and the other Members of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. His knowledge of the issues facing the United States in regards to our relationship with our European allies is immeasurable and he is a truly valued resource to us in our discussions at these meetings. It goes without saying that he will be sorely missed by all the participants in the NATO Parliamentary Assembly meetings both here and abroad.

On behalf of my colleagues in Congress, I want to express my deep appreciation to Paul Gallis for his long service to the Congress and especially for his direct assistance to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. I will regret his absence in future NPA meetings but wish him well in his retirement.

HONORING THE SACRIFICES AND CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2008

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am submitting this statement to record my strong and enthusiastic support of the House Resolution honoring the sacrifices and contributions made by disabled American veterans.

Today I wish to recognize these men and women for their patriotic contribution in our armed services; who have given so much to defend our Nation.

The brave men and women who defend this country under threat of that ultimate sacrifice truly are our guardian angels. They fight with passion and dedication for an ideal that we all cherish, the notion that this is the land of opportunity, the land of the free. Unfortunately, that freedom comes at a price and too often our guardian angels come home wounded and disabled. They defend us and are willing to throw themselves in harms way before us, and we must not forget that.

These wounded warriors are an inspiration to all of us, and we owe them so very much. It is our duty to them that we always remember what they have fought and sacrificed for. We must always remember the sacred agreement we made with these servicemen, if they go off and fight for us we will forever be in their debt and we must provide for them and their loved ones.

My praise and thanks fall well short of equaling the gift of freedom our veterans bestowed on all of us. They bare the scars that remind us all how costly freedom can be, and all I have to offer in return is my eternal gratitude.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES CLAYTON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Charles Clayton

on earning the Community Hero Award, given by Safeco Insurance, for his longtime dedication to helping others and inspiring positive change in his community of Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Charles is the founder of "Athletics for Education and Success." By receiving a second chance as a youth, he felt the calling to educate and empower underprivileged youth. Athletics for Education and Success gives selected youth the opportunity to participate in athletic programs they are likely unable to afford. Charles incorporates education with athletics by focusing on tough issues that kids face today including drugs, teen pregnancy, and gangs.

In addition, Charles has also organized a Disproportionate Minority Representation Council in Fort Dodge to create partnerships between citizens, law enforcement authorities, and schools in order to reduce the disproportionate amount of minority youth arrests in the area.

Charles's dedication to his community and his commitment to improving the life of others should be commended. I consider it an honor to represent Charles Clayton in the United States Congress and I know my colleagues join me in wishing him the best in his continued work serving others.

IN HONOR OF THE 233RD ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. NANCY E. BOYDA

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of an important anniversary—the birthday of the United States Army.

Just shy of 233 years, maybe on a day like today, the people of our Nation came together as volunteers to meet the demands of the American Revolutionary War. It was on that day, June 14th, 1775 that the United States Army was born. I believe that on that same day the spirit of democracy was defended and the birth of our freedom was realized.

Since the birth of our Army, we've waged through 24 major engagements including the War of 1812, the Mexican-American War, the American Civil War, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Kosovo War and more recently Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

Army's Senior Leadership said it best in their birthday message to the force at large. They stated, "Our sacrifices have preserved our way of life, built a better future for others, and led our Nation to victory over our enemies. We are the best in the world at what we do, and because of our values, our ethos, and our people—especially our people. Our Army is hugely resilient, professional, and battle-hardened." I am reassured through the training that I've personally watched in my travels to Iraq and at home that the U.S. Army is without doubt prepared.

I think about the bravery of our men and women that serve. Not a day goes by when I haven't thought about the priceless human investment our Nation bears through America's Sons and Daughters. Though I continually pray for everyone's safe return, I know that each citizen takes an oath that could mean giving the ultimate sacrifice. I am consistently reminded from faces I see almost daily of the

special qualities of spirit, patriotism and courage that exude from the men and women in uniform today, just as they did in 1775.

Happy Birthday—U.S. Army!

IN HONOR OF STEPHEN G. SCHUELER

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend and someone who has served the people of Bradley Beach and my State of New Jersey with distinction—Mayor Stephen G. Schueler.

Steve has served as Mayor of the Borough of Bradley Beach since 1992. Located on the Jersey Shore, Bradley Beach is "New Jersey's Family Resort" with a year round population of 5,000 that swells to 30,000 in the summer months as families come to enjoy the sand, surf, and bustling downtown. Since becoming Mayor, Steve has helped Bradley Beach continue to thrive as a vibrant town with acclaimed restaurants, quaint coffee shops, and a historic movie theater, in addition to its excellent beaches and beautiful boardwalk.

Under Steve's leadership, the many community events that Bradley Beach hosts have continued to provide countless hours of enjoyment for families from all over New Jersey. The Summer Gazebo Concert series on the boardwalk, the annual fireworks display, the Italian-American festival, and the annual Bradley Beach Invitation Lifeguard tournament all provide excellent recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. Also, the end-of-summer Mayor's Clambake, which raises funds for local organizations, is one of the nicest events on the Jersey Shore each year.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to call Steve my friend, and I wish him the best as he ends his time as Mayor of Bradley Beach. While he may no longer be mayor, his example will continue to inspire us all and families will continue to enjoy their visits to Bradley Beach because of the path he has set us on.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I was not present on June 3, 2008. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on the following rollcall votes: rollcall No. 367, rollcall No. 368, and rollcall No. 369.

INTRODUCTION OF 4 BILLS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I am introducing these four bills, which were part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008 and became law as part of Public Law No: 110-161.

The bills address programs focusing on: (1) air cargo screening in passenger airplanes, (2) international registered traveler and border security, (3) accountability in Department of Homeland Security contracts, and (4) increased access to the Office of Inspector General at the Department of Homeland Security to report waste, fraud, and abuse.

These programs were initially funded in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008 and ongoing oversight and review of these programs must continue.

As the Chairman of the Committee of jurisdiction over these programs, it is my intention to work with the Appropriations Committee and other Members of Congress to provide adequate oversight and vigilance over these programs to ensure our Nation is as secure as possible.

HONORING CONNER HALL,
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Conner Hall, The University of Georgia's College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences administrative building, on its 100th anniversary. Initially comprised of a single professor and only a few students, the college was a joint venture, cultivated by the University of Georgia and the Georgia legislature. Recognizing the need for agricultural education, the college became reality under UGA Chancellor Walter B. Hill and Legislator James J. Conner. Today the college has over 1,800 students enrolled in 10 departments with campuses located in Athens, Griffin, and Tifton.

This 100th Anniversary was marked by a Centennial Celebration on April 11, 2008, on the front lawn of Conner Hall in Athens, Georgia. Alumni, friends, and special guests of the University of Georgia's College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences gathered to rededicate the building which was erected in 1908.

Construction on Conner Hall broke ground in the same year that Henry Ford introduced the Model-T. Soon afterwards, the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences released several of its own innovations. Scientists developed new equipment, including the peanut combine and the onion harvester as well as created new crop varieties, many of which have become synonymous with the State of Georgia. The college developed Georgia's green peanuts and new varieties of cotton and Bermuda grass. Indeed, one could hardly pass through the State without seeing the boiled peanut stands that line many of Georgia's two lane roads. However, the college has yielded more than just agricultural innovations. In 1918, the college was the first at the University of Georgia to accept women.

In 1941, World War II called Conner Hall, along with one-half of the college's faculty and staff into service. When the men and women of the college were serving their country, Conner Hall was home to the Navy Pre-Flight School. The building has also served as a creamery, cafeteria, a library, and radio station.

In 2003, the college accomplished a superior achievement, successfully cloning its first calf, named KC. In early 2005, KC gave birth to her second calf, named Moonshine, and the college continues to serve the State in the area of biotechnology innovation as well as food safety. I look forward to the next generation of accomplishments as I continue working with the school as it continues down its innovative path.

Advances in agricultural science have overcome the changing demographics since the early 19th century. Consider that in 1935, 6.8 million farms provided sustenance for America's 127 million citizens. Today, less than 1 million farms produce food for more than 303 million Americans. In other words, 15 percent of farms that existed in 1935 provide food for 238 percent more Americans. Such a feat could only be possible through advances in agricultural science and the many lessons studied at the University of Georgia's College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

HONORING THE SACRIFICES AND
CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY DIS-
ABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 336. There is no greater American hero than the military veteran, and I am proud to join my fellow colleagues today in honoring the sacrifices and contributions of our disabled American veterans.

The American soldier is the embodiment of hard work, patriotism, and service, and the soldier who has sacrificed his body for the freedom and liberty of others around the world deserves our utmost respect. The blood spilled on our own soil and abroad is a lasting reminder of the commitment that our soldiers have sacrificed for us all, and every citizen owes a deep and lasting gratitude to these brave warriors.

Madam Speaker, our departed soldiers must never be forgotten, and those injured veterans from wars past and those just returning from the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan should receive our Nation's and this Congress's unwavering support and reverence. It is an honor to rise today and praise the bravest of all Americans—the disabled military veteran. America will never forget your valor during our most trying times, and we are forever grateful for your dedicated service and selfless sacrifice to our Nation.

HONORING THE PASCO COUNTY
LIBRARY SYSTEM

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Pasco County Library system for receiving the Florida Library Association's 2008 Library of the Year Award.

Each year, an awards committee, composed of members from libraries across the State, reviews nominations for this prestigious award. Although all libraries are eligible, if no library meets the outstanding circumstances, the board can deem it appropriate to withhold the award. However, the Pasco County Library System was selected because of its creative and innovative programming, exemplary service to county residents, and leadership in the community.

Madam Speaker, the Pasco County Library system serves as a model for libraries across my home State of Florida as well as across the Nation. It is with great pleasure that I congratulate the Pasco County Library System for its receipt of the Florida Library Association's 2008 Library of the Year Award.

SALUTING MARTHA AND JOSH
MORRIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ON COMPLETION OF FIRST YEAR
OF OUTSTANDING STEM EDU-
CATION

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the Martha and Josh Morris Mathematics and Engineering Elementary School in Texarkana, Texas, upon completion of its first year of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) focused curriculum. On June 6 classes concluded for the summer, marking the completion of the first year of this innovative, groundbreaking school in the Fourth Congressional District of Texas.

Morris Elementary, serving children in grades K–5, is part of a vertically aligned K–16 engineering education collaboration between Texas A&M University—Texarkana and the Texarkana Independent School District (TISD). This collaborative effort provides mathematics and pre-engineering integrated curriculum and pre-engineering electives for students, who are admitted on a competitive basis. Students graduating from the elementary school will be able to continue an advanced math and science program through middle school and high school as they follow a path to a college degree in one of the STEM fields.

On May 12, 2008, the House Science and Technology Committee held a field hearing at Morris Elementary School to receive testimony on efforts to engage students in math and science at an early age, to keep them interested throughout middle school and high school, and to translate that interest into rewarding careers that will be of benefit to the entire Nation from a federal, school district, university, industry and teacher perspective. At the hearing, witnesses praised the efforts being made at Morris Elementary. We saw first-hand how a community came together and created, with entirely local funding, what could be a national model for K–16 collaboration in mathematics and engineering. The vision for this school began with Dr. James Sullivan, former TISD Superintendent and current Texarkana City Manager, and his wife, Dr. Rosanne Stripling, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Texas A&M University—Texarkana. The plan received the support of the Board of TISD and, coupled with

the generous land donation from Martha and Josh Morriss, became a reality last year.

The school does not have an attendance zone, and any elementary-age student living in the vicinity is eligible to apply for enrollment on a first-come basis without charge. The school is designed for approximately 400 students, with three sections each in grades K–1, 2–3, and 4–5. Due to a very high demand, a waiting list has been established for most of the primary grades.

Texas A&M University—Texarkana Arts and Sciences and Education faculty assist the TISD curriculum personnel and teachers to design the mathematics and engineering integrated curriculum and electives. University faculty develop content and pedagogy courses to train the elementary teachers to deliver the curriculum using effective teaching strategies that promote mastery of the curriculum by all students. All of the Morriss Elementary teachers are required to obtain a Masters Degree and either the Texas Master Mathematics Teacher Certification or Texas Master Technology Teacher Certification through preparation programs offered at A&M—Texarkana.

I am proud of the success of Morriss Elementary and wish to commend TISD Superintendent James Henry Russell and school Principal Rick Sandlin for the wonderful job they are doing. I also wish to congratulate the students and the teachers on the completion of their first year and look forward to monitoring the progress of these students as well as the continued success of Morriss Elementary. Our Nation's ability to continue to lead the world in innovation and competitiveness will depend in large part on our ability to motivate students to succeed and pursue careers in STEM fields. Morriss Elementary is an example of how that thrust can succeed at the local level with the vision and support of educators, parents, community leaders and students.

RACHEL MEIS OF RENTON,
WASHINGTON

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam speaker, I rise today in recognition of Rachel Meis, a young woman from my home district, the Eighth District of Washington, who earned the Congressional Medal. I honored her achievements at my district office during the Memorial Day recess and I do so again today.

Rachel didn't just showcase her selfless and wonderful spirit to earn congressional recognition. She has consistently lived her life in a way that is inspiring and a wonderful example for young people everywhere. Aside from her Congressional Medal, Rachel is a National Merit Finalist, a member of the National Honor Society at Tahoma High School and a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the National Honor Society of Green River Community College—where she participated in Running Start Program courses to supplement her education.

Rachel is also a star on the track. She is a sprinter and qualified for the Washington State championships in four separate events. She finished 11th in the 100 meter, 13th in the 200 meter, 11th in the 4 x 100 meter relay and medaled in the 4 x 200 meter relay.

Most recently, Rachel scored in the top 1 percent of more than 46,000 students in the Department of the Treasury's newly minted National Financial Literacy Challenge—an initiative recommended by the President's Advisory Council on Financial Literacy.

Rachel will attend George Fox University in Oregon starting this fall and plans to major in mechanical engineering. So far in her young life, she has succeeded due to a wonderful attitude and a positive work ethic. I am excited to see what she will accomplish in her future.

TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER
JORGENSEN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jennifer Jorgensen on her exemplary basketball career and congratulate her on receiving the honor of being named Iowa's 2008 Miss Basketball.

Jennifer recently graduated from Southeast Webster-Grand High School and will be attending Pacific University to continue her illustrious basketball career. Jennifer has been recognized with a variety of accomplishments including a three-time first team all-state basketball choice as well as the IBCA all-region team.

Jennifer leaves behind a stellar basketball career, finishing as Iowa women's second all-time leading scorer, fourth in rebounds, and fifth in assists.

Jennifer is a shining example of the dedication and determination present in today's youth and their promise as tomorrow's leaders. It is an honor to represent Jennifer and her family in the United States Congress and I know my colleagues join me in wishing her the best of luck in her upcoming journey into higher education and collegiate athletics.

TRIBUTE TO SCOTT HENDERSON

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Scott Henderson for years of tireless service in my office and to the people of the Fourteenth Congressional District of Florida.

I've had the pleasure of knowing Scott for over 8 years. Throughout that entire time he has been a dedicated public servant, a strong advocate for the principles we share and cherish, and most importantly, a true friend.

I first met Scott when I was running for the Florida Legislature and Scott was working for the Republican Party of Florida. I soon hired him and he helped me win my first race for State Representative in 2000. After taking office, I hired him to be my assistant, and he quickly proved to be an invaluable friend and colleague as we navigated the challenges and opportunities of serving in Tallahassee.

When I decided to run for Congress in 2003 Scott stayed by my side and helped implement a winning campaign. After I was elected to the House, Scott became my Deputy Chief

of Staff. His has been a diverse role—managing special projects, meeting with constituents, and providing critical support for a number of important initiatives.

Among Scott's many accomplishments—and the one I am most proud of—was his critical work to secure the release of two Cuban dentists from Bahamian custody who fled Cuba seeking freedom. Because of Scott's efforts, these dentists were reunited with their loved ones in Florida and today live in freedom.

But after 8 years of working by my side, Scott has been afforded a wonderful professional opportunity that will allow him to continue to grow and flourish in his career.

Scott is moving to New Jersey to become a Manager of State Government Affairs for Covanta Energy, a waste-to-energy company. While we will all miss Scott's presence and good nature in the office, we are excited for him as he begins the next phase of his life and career. I'm certain that he will make significant contributions to his new company and his new community, and know that he will always have a special place in his heart for the State he loves so much.

Madam Speaker, the State of Florida and the people of southwest Florida are better off today because of Scott Henderson's diligent efforts to ensure it remains a great place to live, work and visit.

On behalf of the people of Florida's Fourteenth Congressional District, I want to thank Scott for his years of service to the people of Florida and the Nation. He is my friend, he is a true public servant in every sense of the word, and I wish him all the best as he and his wife Betsy begin this new and exciting chapter of their lives.

TRIBUTE TO DR. FREDERICK
GRASSLE

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. SAXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Frederick Grassle. On June 16, 2008 Dr. Grassle will be celebrated for his years of service as he steps down from his role as the Director of the Rutgers University Institute for Marine and Coastal Sciences after nineteen years.

Dr. Grassle has been instrumental in the tremendous success of the Institute for Marine and Coastal Sciences (IMCS). A well-published and involved member of the science community, Dr. Grassle has worked tirelessly to establish Rutgers University and the IMCS as a premier institution for the study of oceanic and aquatic sciences. He has fought for various causes, including the elimination of deep sea dumping, watershed-scale approaches to coastal management, and ensuring we safeguard our coastal habitats.

In the past two decades, I have been fortunate enough to work with Dr. Grassle to bring about positive change to our precious coastal habitats. Through our collaboration, the Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve was designated and the Barnegat Bay Estuary began receiving much-needed assistance by developing and implementing various programs designed to restore its ecological integrity. In addition, we worked

to bring about funding for the National Undersea Research Program, the Integrated Ocean Observing Program, and a range of fisheries research programs.

No stranger to the community, Dr. Grassle is a member of numerous professional organizations, including the New Jersey Academy of Sciences, the American Society of Naturalists, the Estuarine Research Federation, the National Association of Marine Laboratories and the Oceanography Society, to name a few. He also served as Past President of the International Association of Biological Oceanographers.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Grassle's infectious enthusiasm and abiding loyalty to our coastal regions are only surpassed by his genuine desire to embrace and enhance the community around him. As he celebrates his time with Rutgers University, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for Dr. Grassle's leadership, commitment, and service.

ON RESOLUTION REGARDING IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT BUSH

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I do not think the House should today take up the question of exercising our Constitutional authority to impeach the President and asking the Senate to try him on charges that, if proved, would result in his removal from office.

That does not mean I have turned or will turn a blind eye to the numerous misjudgments of President Bush or that I think his administration has been above reproach. On the contrary, I think that the Bush Administration has been a distinct failure. I am convinced that this President will not be treated well by historians. His failures of judgment and leadership span domestic and foreign affairs in a way that will likely haunt future generations for years to come—failures which are cited in the resolution proposed by the gentleman from Ohio.

But the question now before the House is not what we think of President Bush's actions and those of his Administration. Instead, we are being asked whether we should now, today, proceed to charge that he has violated his constitutional oath to faithfully execute the duties of his office and to defend the Constitution and thus should be impeached and brought to trial in the Senate.

The resolution sets forth what its author says are the specific statements and actions of the president that constitute violations of his oath. I also find those statements and actions deeply troubling and agree that they draw a picture of an Administration that has been characterized by hubris, bad judgment and arrogance. The picture is an unattractive one; but bad judgment, hubris and arrogance are not the constitutional grounds for impeachment.

The resolution raises serious questions about the way this president has used his position, both in communicating with the American people and in shaping policy. But as of today I am not prepared to say that there are adequate grounds to conclude that the failures

of this Administration in fact constitute grounds for impeachment—and I do not think that Members of the House should be called upon to reach that conclusion today.

Before the House is asked to reach such a draconian conclusion, the president should have an opportunity to respond to the resolution's charges and the statements and actions it cites in support of those charges. Before we are asked to vote on the resolution, we should have the benefit of hearing from appropriate legal experts and other qualified witness and the Judiciary Committee should prepare a report that will provide the basis for any debate here on the floor of the House.

Impeachment is not entirely a legal question. It is partly political, which is why the Constitution entrusts it to Congress and not the courts. But I think it is essential that any decision to impeach any federal official should come only through a careful, thorough process that provides adequate due process for the accused and lays the proper foundation for a sound decision.

That was the process followed by the Judiciary Committee, under the able leadership of Chairman Peter Rodino, when it considered and ultimately approved articles of impeachment against President Richard Nixon in July of 1974. In my opinion, that set the example of how the process should work. I think to do otherwise, as the author of this resolution seeks to do, would further weaken the civility toward our colleagues and respect for those with whom we disagree that should be the basis for our service in Congress and would only add to the polarization and rancor that are all too prevalent in the nation's political debates. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I must oppose consideration of this resolution at this time.

SALUTING THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF THE LATE BO DIDDLEY

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to the life and legacy of a man whose work in Rock 'n' Roll has been called "ground breaking." Bo Diddley was born Ellas Otha Bates in McComb, Mississippi, on December 30, 1928 and passed away on June 2, 2008 at the age of 79.

Diddley was raised by his mother's cousin, Gussie McDaniel, whose surname he legally adopted. The family moved to Chicago when Diddley was seven. Bo broke new ground in rock and roll's formative years with his unique guitar work, indelible African rhythms, inventive songwriting, and larger-than-life persona. He will forever be known for popularizing one of the foundational rhythms of rock and roll: the Bo Diddley beat. He employed it in his namesake song, "Bo Diddley" (which earned him a rightful place in the Grammy Hall Of Fame). This African-based rhythm pattern was picked up from Diddley by other artists and has been a distinctive and recurring element in rock and roll through the decades. His beats have influenced the music of artists such as Buddy Holly, the Rolling Stones, Johnny Otis, the Strangeloves, the Who, and Bruce Springsteen.

Diddley is the author of a body of songs—including "Who Do You Love?" "Road Runner," "Mona," "Before You Accuse Me" and "I'm a Man"—that are among the earliest examples of rock and roll rising out of rhythm and blues. Diddley married into his music two worlds he knew well—the Deep South and the streets of Chicago. He formed a band called the Hipsters while in high school and landed a regular spot at the 708 Club on Chicago's South Side in 1951.

Diddley's earliest records were contemporaneous with those of label mate Chuck Berry. He signed with the Checkers label in 1955 and his debut single was a two-sided classic that paired "Bo Diddley" with "I'm a Man." It was the first in a string of groundbreaking songs that walked the fine line between rhythm & blues and rock & roll. Others included "Diddley Daddy," "Pretty Thing" and "Road Runner," which were all Top Twenty R&B hits. Oddly, Diddley's only crossover success came with "Say Man," a laugh-filled exchange of jive talk between Diddley and his maraca player, Jerome Green. Their verbal sparring derived from the African-American pastime of "signifying" or "doing the dozens" and foreshadowed the battle rapping of the present day.

Diddley was also an inventor, devising his own tremolo effect and playing a unique, rectangular "cigar box" guitar that he designed in 1958. His ever-fertile mind also inspired him to set up one of the first home studios. The prolific singer/guitarist released a string of albums whose titles—including Bo Diddley Is a Gunslinger and Have Guitar, Will Travel—bolstered his self-invented legend.

Diddley also traveled with the rock and roll revues of the day. He retained his iconic status as a rock and roll pioneer, steadily releasing albums on Checkers through the mid-Seventies. Meanwhile, Diddley continued to work the live circuit in tireless fashion.

Bo Diddley was one of rock 'n' roll's true pioneers. He has been righteously outspoken on the subject of underpayment, bad contracts and other rip-offs that denied many early rock and rollers (he among them) what was due them and in 1987 he was inducted into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame.

A regular at Harlem's Apollo Theatre, Bo Diddley has indelibly stamped his mark on rhythm and blues, rock 'n' roll and popular music. His innovative trademark rhythm, his electric custom built cigar box guitar, and his wild stage shows predate all others. Diddley leaves a permanent mark on American music and culture, and our deepest sympathies go out to his family, friends and fans. The 'Bo Diddley beat' surely will continue on.

HONORING THE AIR FORCE ESSAY CONTEST WINNER—ASHITA GANGULY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following winning essay, which Ashita Ganguly, a Senior at Paris High School in Paris, Texas, submitted to the Air Force Essay Contest.

PART OF THE AIR FORCE MISSION STATEMENT IS "EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO"; WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO YOU?

Excellence is a tradition that beats proudly in the hearts of all Americans. The United States Air Force is a specific example of the furtherance of such a tradition. Since its formation in 1947, the Air Force has relentlessly strived to serve and protect America and her people with unyielding strength, valor, and conviction. Although it has established itself as the largest and most technologically advanced air force in the world, it is the spirited and courageous men and women, selflessly serving their country and fellow citizens, who truly distinguish the United States Air Force from all others.

Webster defines excellence as unusual goodness or worth. Throughout its existence, the Air Force has showcased this unique generosity not only in regards to national affairs, but also in world affairs. During the Cold War, when Soviet leader Joseph Stalin disrupted the supply traffic to Berlin, the United States Air Force undertook Operation Vittles, also known as the Berlin Airlifts. From June of 1948 to May of 1949, the Air Force was able to deliver an astounding 2.3 million tons of cargo on the 277,685 flights, providing vital necessities to all of Berlin's citizens. The excellence in efficiency proved by the Air Force in these missions continues to remain unmatched. In the years following, the Air Force continued to lead in many other humanitarian efforts including Operation Safe Haven, which relocated 20,000 Hungarian refugees following the Hungarian Revolution of 1956, and Operation Provide Hope, which provided medical equipment to former Soviet republics during their transition to democratic and free-market states.

Since its conception, the Air Force has been involved in a number of wars and conflicts including World War I, World War II, the Cold War, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, the Kosovo War, and, of course, the Iraq War. Its members have valiantly served to preserve democratic values in all parts of the world with great regard to "a proud heritage, a tradition of honor, and a legacy of valor," as stated in The Airman's Creed.

A few years ago, I witnessed this tradition first hand when visiting Andrews Air Force base in Maryland. Watching the air show, I was astonished to see the meticulous craft and precision displayed by the pilots. The intricate and complex formations of the planes in flight still lives in my memory. However, despite being surrounded by the most sophisticated and advanced technology comprehensible to man, it was the infectious spirit of enthusiasm for duty that captivated me. Watching the pilots animatedly discuss their air crafts and missions spurred my interest.

The 351,800 members of the United States Air Force, groomed by tradition, guided by values, and driven by strife towards excellence represent the heart and soul of American culture. Exhibiting superiority of character and performance, both on and off duty, they are the role models in an often misguided period in society. As the United States Air Force continues "To fly and fight in Air, Space, and Cyberspace," ordinary citizens, like me, can only expect excellence in all of their endeavors. Their example inspires us all.

IN HONOR OF MARY LOU NIXON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mary Lou Nixon, a profoundly respected and familiar figure to many in Cleveland, as she retires following a thirty-two year career dedicated to guiding students across the Greater Cleveland Area to college.

For over thirty years, Mary Lou Nixon has served as the Cleveland Scholarship Programs Advisor, where she worked with many low income families and other struggling students with securing financial aid for a college education. With her guidance and outstanding specialized service, she has helped an innumerable amount of students in the Greater Cleveland Area attend college. Her "fact sheets" and inspiring attitude gave students and families the tools and confidence to send themselves or their children to college, despite the many challenges that many face. If a family was unable to fill out student-aid application forms on line, she walked them through it. If a student was unable to come up with the finances to attend college, she helped them secure the resources they needed.

Mrs. Nixon is the local expert and has unlocked countless college opportunities for students in the Greater Cleveland Area. She made attending college accessible to everybody and guided members of the community who would have otherwise been unable to attend college realize their dream of earning a bachelors degree. Recognized for her patience and personal demeanor, Mrs. Nixon served as a mother figure to many in more ways than one; she and her husband opened their house numerous times to children in need of a place to stay. As an active member of the community, Mary Lou Nixon will dedicate her post-retirement time working with the Lakewood Public Library, where she sits on the board of trustees.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Mary Lou Nixon, who dedicated her life to helping students across the Greater Cleveland Area attend college and in recognition of the invaluable guidance she provided to so many.

TRIBUTE TO TALIA LEMAN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great achievement by seventh-grade student Talia Leman of Waukee, Iowa. Talia was named one of America's top ten youth volunteers for 2008 with the National Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

Talia was selected from a field of nearly 20,000 candidates for her outstanding volunteer community service. The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards were created 13 years ago to encourage youth volunteerism and to identify and reward young role models. Talia received a personal award of \$5,000, an engraved gold medallion, a crystal trophy for her school, and a \$5,000 grant from The Pruden-

tial Foundation for a nonprofit charitable organization of her choice.

Talia created "RandomKid" an organization that seeks to educate, motivate and unify young people around the world to work on a broad spectrum of pressing needs. She began the organization 2 years ago by encouraging kids to collect coins instead of candy on Halloween, and donate the money to Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Her message was widely publicized to kids across the country and reportedly raised millions of dollars for Katrina victims.

Talia established a nonprofit organization and created the website, www.randomkid.org which solicits young people for projects to help rebuild the Gulf Coast, raise money to build a school in Cambodia, find homes for stray pets, and collect DVDs for soldiers overseas. Talia is currently encouraging schools to make and sell their own private-labeled bottled-water products to help fund clean-water technologies. She's also working on setting up a "mini-United Nations" made up of young delegates from around the world who work together to address global children's issues.

Talia is a shining example of the dedication, determination and faith present in today's youth and their promise as tomorrow's leaders. I am proud to represent Talia Leman and her family in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending Talia for her accomplishments and dedication to making a difference in the world.

RECOGNIZING THE MOBILE DIVISION OF THE FBI ON THE 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE FBI

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the Mobile, Alabama, FBI Field Office on the 100 year anniversary of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

Organized in 1908, America's best investigators were brought together and organized to form what is now the FBI. Over the past century, many of the world's most dangerous criminals have been apprehended by the FBI.

The FBI started as an agency covering interstate crimes such as robbery and embezzlement. In the mid 1920s, they were responsible for capturing lawbreakers such as Al Capone, Bonnie and Clyde, and Baby Face Nelson. Countless serial killers, kidnappers, and other violent criminals have also been captured as a result of the hard work and diligence of the FBI.

Following the attacks of September 11, 2001, the FBI began a long term transformation from the world's premier law enforcement agency to the world's premier law enforcement, intelligence, and counter terrorism agency. Today, there are over 30,000 employees, including over 12,000 special agents. There are 56 field offices, more than 400 smaller resident agencies in the United States, and 15 sub-offices in cities around the world.

The Mobile FBI Field Office is an active member of the Mobile community, providing training to law enforcement personnel including firearm instructor certification, crime scene

investigation, basic sniper training, basic SWAT training, civil rights training, instructor development certification, crimes against children training, and terrorism training. The Field Office has also sponsored police officers and police executives for advanced training schools at the FBI laboratory, the FBI academy, and international locations.

Special Agent in Charge (SAC) Debra K. Mack heads this office of more than 110 agent and professional support personnel. SAC Mack has oversight of all of the FBI's operational, investigative, and administrative matters as well as the technical operations and financial issues for the 36 counties comprising the southern half of the state of Alabama. In 2007, SAC Mack was inducted into the Louisiana Justice Hall of Fame, becoming the first ever FBI Special Agent to receive this honor.

The Mobile FBI Field Office has worked hard to protect the people of southwest Alabama. Its partnerships with municipal, county, and state law enforcement offices have resulted in the apprehension of drug-dealers, online child predators, kidnappers, fraudsters, and the forfeiture of assets in the millions of dollars.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating SAC Mack and all of those at the Mobile FBI Field Office on the FBI's 100th anniversary. For all their accomplishments, I extend my heartfelt thanks for their continued service to the people of Alabama and the First Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING THE
CONTRIBUTIONS OF ED SNYDER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Denton City Attorney Ed Snyder and his years of dedication and service to Denton, Texas. Ed has been with the City of Denton for 8 1/2 years and will retire June 30, 2008.

After 31 years of practicing law, Ed has decided to pursue his dream to be a coach and will begin a new career as a teacher and coach. Ed began his career in Denton in October 1999 as Deputy City Attorney. In 2005 the Denton City Council appointed him City Attorney. Under his leadership, Denton was able to accomplish many goals, including the adoption and implementation of a new comprehensive plan and development code.

Prior to working in Denton Ed was in private practice from 1977 to 1982, then Assistant City Attorney for Temple, Texas from 1982 to 1983. From 1983 to 1997 Ed served as First Assistant City Attorney for Plano, and returned to private practice from 1997 to 1999 before joining the City of Denton. Ed holds a Bachelor of Science in Education degree from Central Michigan University, and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of San Diego School of Law.

Ed is a member of the State Bar of Texas and State Bar of Michigan. He has practiced before the United States District Court and is a member of the Denton County Bar Association. In the summer of 1999 Ed was published in *The Urban Lawyer* for his article: A Condemnation Case from the Condemnor's Per-

spective. In 2001 Ed was awarded the prestigious Galen Sparks Texas Assistant City Attorney of the Year Award, given by the Texas City Attorneys Association.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today and recognize Ed Snyder for his years of hard work and dedication to the citizens of Denton County and the state of Texas. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress. His service has set a standard of devotion and true leadership—one that will never be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HUNTING HILLS SWIM CLUB

HON. ELLJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hunting Hills Swim Club as they mark their 50th anniversary on June 14, 2008. Thanks to the generous donation by the Amos and Gundry families a patch of land that once was the home to pig farming, is now a local institution and home of the Hunting Hills Hammerheads.

In 1958, the pool opened for business as members agreed to foot the cost of the club by purchasing a bond that made them co-owners of the pool. It was one of the first bond-financed pools in Maryland. Today, bond-membership pools are the norm. Hunting Hills Swim Club helped establish that trend.

Recently the pool itself began showing its age. Undaunted by the time and cost needed to set things right, members agreed to take the plunge and rebuild the main pool and the baby pool. The perimeters of each were excavated. New pipes, skimmers and pumps were installed. The interiors were resurfaced and a new diving board was erected. Today, the pool looks better than ever.

More than 300 families are now members of the pool. They come from near and far—from Baltimore City, from Catonsville, from Ellicott City and elsewhere—to cool off and meet their summer- and year-long friends. Many of the current bondholders first arrived at the pool in strollers, learned to walk, learned to swim, went off to school and now bring their own children there. Today, nearly 100 children take swim lessons and compete in the Central Maryland Swim League Division V as members of the Hunting Hills swim team.

Madam Speaker, as the days get longer and warmer, it is nice to know that there are places where families and friends can gather to enjoy the summer as a community. I congratulate the Hunting Hills Swim Club on its 50th anniversary and wish all of its members the best in 2008.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AND REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER—SEATTLE, WA

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life-saving and

ground-breaking medical care happening at the Seattle Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center every day. Continuing a tradition that has held for 16 years, Seattle Children's is once again ranked among the top 30 children's hospitals nationally in U.S. News & World Report's annual rankings.

Seattle Children's ranked fifth-best in the Nation for pediatric cancer care, eighth-best for general pediatrics, neurology and neurosurgery, and ninth-best for respiratory disorders. Children's also ranked 23rd in neonatal care and 30th for heart care and heart surgery.

Year in and year out, Seattle Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center provides life-saving care to the most vulnerable among us. The Pacific Northwest is fortunate to have such an exceptional institution in our region. I salute the medical professionals and support staffs who work tirelessly to give their extraordinary talents for the health and wellness of our children. Seattle Children's is a deserving recipient of this national recognition.

HONORING RETIRING EDUCATOR
LARRY MYHRA

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual, and an excellent public servant: La Crosse educator, Larry Myhra.

The end of every school year brings the retirement of many terrific school leaders, teachers and staff members who provide a quality education for our children and replacing their professionalism and dedication is an annual challenge.

One such individual this year is Larry Myhra, who is retiring as principal of Lincoln Middle School after a distinguished 35-year career as principal, science teacher, and football coach in the La Crosse School District.

In 1973, Larry graduated from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and began his teaching career in the science department at old Logan High School. Throughout his 31 years at Logan High School, Larry served as the head football and track coach, assistant basketball coach, athletic director, activities director, dean of students, and associate principal. While serving as athletic director, Larry helped to broaden the program by adding various sports, including hockey and soccer, but later decided to become the activities director in order to better serve the entire student body. Larry was also an advocate for the creation of the La Crosse charter school, which helps students that are in danger of dropping out of school stay in school and graduate. This program has helped many students improve both their attendance and their grades.

When I was in high school, I had the pleasure of playing for Coach Myhra for 3 years at Logan. He instilled in his players and students a desire for dedication and determination both in and out of the classroom. I owe much of who I became in life to Coach Myhra and the educational system that was provided to me in La Crosse.

In 2004 Larry took up the position of principal at Lincoln Middle School, where he remained until now.

It has been said that great teachers and coaches enjoy a special immortality because their influence never stops radiating. That is certainly true for Larry Myhra. I wish him and our retiring educators a well-deserved and happy retirement.

HONOR FLIGHTS

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I am submitting this statement to record my strong and enthusiastic support for veterans participating in the Honor Flight Chicago visit to the World War II memorial.

Today I recognize these men for their incalculable contributions to our society through their military service to the United States during World War II.

As part of a group brought together by the organization Honor Flight Chicago, I met with these heroes at the World War II Memorial to welcome them on their visit to Washington. Honor Flight Chicago honors World War II veterans by flying them to our Nation's capital so they can visit the World War II memorial for free.

The men who visited today are part of what's been called the greatest generation. They were a group of men who answered the call of duty when summoned, making great sacrifices to preserve the freedoms we all enjoy today. Because of their service and sacrifice, they exemplify what it means to be a hero.

I am proud to submit the names of these men for all to see, hear, and recognize.

Harold Schirmer, Howard Schoen, Gordon Smith, Norman C. Ohlendorf, Sam Polletta, Robert D. Swanson, Bernard J. Kramer, William G. Berry, Frank Loutly, Kenneth D. Loudy.

Michael J. Lasowski, Fernando Yori, Fred L. Alexander, Kenneth Ridgway, Myron Ridgwa, Leonard Tetrault, Wilbert Weigel, Raymond Vogen, Sylvester J. Beaupre, Leonard Feller.

Charles Wagner, Arthur P. Grotto, Daniel Green, William Crosby, Paul Sellers, Willard Swords, Vernon K. Hardt, Joseph Lach, Edward Lancioni, George Dinsmore, John F. Berns.

Theodore Tusinski, James W. Milligan, Robert W. Church, William R. Dreher, Steven A. Krempa, Walter J. Miller, Edward Sulma, Robert G. Terreberry, Lawrence E. Weaver, John P. Weinmeier.

Edward Tanaka, Charlie F. May, Robert W. Anderson, Robert L. Christensen, Robert Persinger, George S. Cassara, Giulio Filippi, Manuel G. Vasquez, Earl Morin, Earl Thayer.

William D. Coons, Robert Cave, William Mansfield, Anton Sikich, Maurice R. Koebele, Vernon H. Keller, Elmer Palmateer, James Sikich, Astor Carlson.

It was my honor to greet these heroes in person, and I thank them for their service.

SUPPORTING EXTENDING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TO JOBLESS WORKERS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of assisting the millions of workers who have exhausted their Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits and are still struggling to find work in the wreckage of the Bush recession.

While cutting taxes for the very richest, the President has left workers to fend for themselves. Congress has a responsibility to mend our safety net and lessen the impact of unemployment. In my home State of California, over 180,000 workers have run out of UI benefits, with an additional 520,000 expected to join them over the next 10 months. Even our Republican Governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger, has called on Congress to extend benefits.

This legislation is simple. It will provide 13 additional weeks of UI to workers who are still unable to find employment after exhausting benefits. In States with high unemployment, an additional 13 weeks would be made available. All benefits will be paid out of the UI Trust Fund, which has \$35 billion in reserves. Extending UI benefits is also commonplace. During the last seven recessions—1958, 1961, 1972, 1975, 1982, 1991, and 2002—Congress has passed similar legislation. The circumstances for unemployed workers are actually more dire today than they were during the past two downturns. Long-term unemployment is twice as high (18.5 percent of those without jobs have been unemployed for six months or more) as it was when Congress extended benefits in 2002 and 1991.

The time to act is now. The economy has lost 324,000 jobs during the last 5 months. Gas and food prices are at or above record highs. Foreclosures continue to ravish communities across the country. Over 28 million Americans are receiving food stamps—an all-time high.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that this bill will provide benefits to 3.8 million unemployed workers. I urge all of my colleagues to exercise common sense and compassion and provide much needed support to working families by voting "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, on June 9, I was unable to vote on House Resolutions 1225, 1243, and 127. Had I been able, I would have voted in support of these resolutions.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS, MICHIGAN

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the Village of Beverly Hills, in Oakland County, Michigan, which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary on June 14, 2008. The village's tree-lined streets and well-planned community live up to its reputation as a lovely place to live.

The Village of Beverly Hills can be traced back to 1830. A thirty-six square mile area from present day 8 Mile to 14 Mile Roads and from Greenfield to Inkster Roads was organized as Ossewa Township on July 12, 1830. Seventeen days later, Ossewa Township was renamed to Southfield Township. Throughout the 1800's and the early 1900's, the area was primarily farmland, with sawmills, gristmills, and cider mills dotting the landscape.

In the 1920's, a subdivision called Beverly Hills was developed on Birchwood and Kirkshire Streets, and was quickly populated through the 1950's. Beginning in 1953, Southfield Township slowly broke apart with the incorporation of Lathrup Village, Franklin, and Bingham Farms. When the City of Southfield was incorporated in 1957, the residents of what is now Beverly Hills felt the need for more home rule and local control. On September 23, 1957, the Village of Westwood was incorporated, and in March 1958, the village adopted the more popular name Beverly Hills.

Today Beverly Hills is the largest Home Rule Village in Michigan, with a statewide reputation as a leader in municipal management and fiscal stability. The Village also has the distinction of being one of the safest communities in Michigan, due in large part to the efforts of their Department of Public Safety, police and fire departments, and emergency medical services.

Madam Speaker, Beverly Hills is a forward thinking community aimed at improving the already sterling quality of life that their residents expect. I congratulate them on their 50th anniversary and wish the residents many more years of prosperity.

FATHER'S DAY RESOLUTION

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2008

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my strong support to H. Res. 1243, which recognizes the importance of fathers in American society.

In 1965, while reporting to the Johnson administration on the problems of under-class America, Daniel Patrick Moynihan cut to the root of many of the problems we in Congress work so hard to address. His report stated that, "... A community that allows a large number of young men to grow up in broken families ... never acquiring any stable relationship to male authority, never acquiring any rational expectations about the future—that

community asks for and gets chaos.” Tragically, since the Moynihan Report was issued, the number of fatherless homes has more than tripled. Is it any wonder, then, that our society has the problems that it does?

Several studies conducted in recent years emphasize the importance of fathers in the well-being of their children. Children living without their fathers are 5 times more likely to live in poverty as those who live with both parents. Not living with both parents quadruples the risk of having an affective disorder, such as depression, and are nearly twice as likely to be diagnosed with breathing problems such as asthma. Cigarette, alcohol, and drug use, and violent crime rates are all significantly lower for children that come from two parent households. Children with fathers are half as likely to drop out of school, half as likely to repeat a grade, and much more likely to get A’s, enjoy school, and participate in extracurricular activities. And where fathers were present,

young men were more likely to grow up to become good fathers themselves.

It would be naïve for me to suggest that the simple presence of a father guarantees the success of their children and a life without problems. But the evidence is overwhelming that fathers do play a vital role in the growth and development of their children. So, Mr. Speaker, as we prepare to celebrate Fathers’ Day this weekend, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this resolution that expresses our appreciation for the hard work that fathers do in providing for their families, for modeling good relationships, and for raising their children to be responsible citizens of this great country.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I would like to take just a moment to honor my own father, Wilbur Tiahrt. Truly a member of the Greatest Generation, he raised me and my siblings to be people of integrity, to value our families, and to appreciate and cherish the freedoms we

have in America today. Seven years ago, my father underwent open heart surgery. That experience has served as a very personal reminder to how short life is, and each Fathers’ Day I am especially grateful for the time that I have with my father.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, on June 9, I was touring flood damaged parts of my district in Iowa and was not present for votes. Had I been present for Rollcall votes 388, 389 and 390, I would have voted “yes”.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 12, 2008 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 17

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the origins of aggressive interrogation techniques, focusing on Part I of the Committee's inquiry into the treatment of detainees in U.S. custody.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the challenges and regional solutions to developing transmission for renewable electricity resources.

SD-366

Finance

To hold hearings to examine the future of the United States economy, focusing on long run deficits and debt.

SD-215

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine protecting consumers by protecting intellectual property.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Appropriations

Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee

To hold joint hearings to examine the role, responsibilities, and resource needs of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission on oversight of futures and derivatives markets in energy and agriculture.

SD-192

Appropriations

Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the role, responsibilities, and resource needs of

the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, focusing on oversight of energy markets and oil futures contracts.

SD-192

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

International Development and Foreign Assistance, Economic Affairs and International Environmental Protection Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine international disaster assistance, focusing on policy options.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine ways to respond to the growing need for federal judgeships, focusing on "The Federal Judgeship Act of 2008".

SD-226

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 1774, to designate the John Krebs Wilderness in the State of California, to add certain land to the Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park Wilderness, S. 2255, to amend the National Trails System Act to provide for studies of the Chisholm Trail and Great Western Trail to determine whether to add the trails to the National Trails System, S. 2359, to establish the St. Augustine 450th Commemoration Commission, S. 2943, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, S. 3017, to designate the Beaver Basin Wilderness at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in the State of Michigan, S. 3010, to reauthorize the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program, S. 3045, to establish the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Forest Heritage Area in the State of Alaska, H.R. 1143, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Islands National Park, and S. 3096, to amend the National Cave and Karst Research Institute Act of 1998 to authorize appropriations for the National Cave and Karst Research Institute.

SD-366

3 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine combating sexual exploitation of children, focusing on strengthening international law enforcement cooperation.

B318, Rayburn Building

JUNE 18

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine privacy implications of online advertising.

SR-253

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine protecting personal information, focusing on steps the federal government has in place.

SD-342

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine improving energy efficiency, focusing on increasing the use of renewable sources of energy, and reducing the carbon footprint of the Capitol complex.

SR-301

10:30 a.m.

Aging

Judiciary

Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee

To hold joint hearings to examine S. 2838, to amend chapter 1 of title 9 of United States Code with respect to arbitration.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the preparedness of federal land management agencies for the 2008 wildfire season.

SD-366

JUNE 19

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine cruise ship safety, focusing on potential steps for keeping Americans safe at sea.

SR-253

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

JUNE 24

10:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine climate change impacts on the transportation sector.

SR-253

JUNE 25

9:30 a.m.

Judiciary

Constitution Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine laptop searches and other violations of privacy faced by Americans returning from overseas travel.

SD-226

JUNE 26

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to markup pending calendar business.

SR-418